

Testimony Concerning [HB 6187](#) & [SB 1128](#)
April 1, 2015
Elaine Henderson

I would like to thank your Honor for the opportunity to express my support of HB 6187 - "Desmond's Law". I have never created a letter such as this before and I hope you will make allowances for my ignorance of form and direction and instead please focus on my sincerity and the examples proved here.

Animals of all kinds desperately need a voice in this world. We as human beings are the caretakers of the planet and its creatures. If we do not care for and protect the animals that need us so badly we are failing at the very basic task of being human. To allow animal abusers to go unpunished is a crime in itself.

- I have been a volunteer at Dakin Humane Society in Springfield, Ma. for many years. This is the only way I have available to me to help the plight of homeless; abused and neglected animals. But the animals we help are only the ones that are surrendered and I know there are many more out there in deplorable conditions that are not being helped because here are insufficient laws in place to allow proper interception in these cases.
- Today the bodies of two dogs were found in garbage bags along a highway in Waterbury, CT. (<http://wtnh.com/2015/03/27/dot-finds-two-dead-dogs-in-waterbury/>) We don't know what kind of torturous lives they lived before being disposed of like so much garbage but if we had strong laws in place to prosecute animal abuse when it's found, before the animal is dead, we can help end the cycle and save many more lives.
- Earlier (March 4, 2015) there were dead dog bodies found along a road in Clinton, CT. (<http://www.wfsb.com/story/28256059/clinton-woman-discovers-dead-dogs-in-trash-bags>)
- And the abuse isn't just with dogs. There are horses suffering too. <http://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local/Animal-Cruelty-Complaint-Filed-in-Westbrook-285655961.html>
- And then we've got the repeat offenders like this man, who I can only assume will continue to abuse; torture and eventually kill any animal he can get his hands on because we do not have laws strict enough to stop him. http://articles.courant.com/2014-01-15/news/hc-ed-stop-animal-abusers-20140115_1_animal-cruelty-arrest-warrant-seven-cats

Please help give law enforcement the tools to prosecute these horrendous crimes by approving and passing into law this bill- HB 6187. Give poor Desmond the voice he so desperately needed before he died at the hands of a despicable human. Give him justice now by stopping all animal abusers from walking away virtually unscathed, to continue to torture and kill helpless animals.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I do hope you will strongly support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you,
Elaine L. Henderson
Enfield, CT.